

REMARKS

The abstract and specification have been amended in order to correct grammatical and idiomatic errors contained therein. No new matter has been added.

In order to expedite the prosecution of the present application, Claims 11-19, 21 and 24 have been canceled and replaced by newly presented Claims 25-36 which more particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicants regard as the invention. No new matter has been added and the currently presented claims remove the objections to Claims 11, 12, 17 and 24 set forth in the outstanding Office Action.

Claims 11-21 and 24 have been rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 USC 103(a) as being obvious over JP 7-292382 (Kuroda). Claims 11-21 and 24 have been provisionally rejected on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting over Claims 8-10 of application Serial No. 10/540 617. Claims 11-21 and 24 have been provisionally rejected on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting over Claims 1-5 of application Serial No. 10/501 303. Claims 11-21 and 24 have been provisionally rejected on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting over Claims 11-21 of application Serial No. 10/546 345. Claims 11-21 and 24 have been provisionally rejected on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting over Claims 15 and 16 of application Serial No. 10/522 648. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration in light of the following comments.

In order to overcome the obviousness-type double patenting rejections made in the outstanding Office Action, Applicants are enclosing herewith a Terminal Disclaimer that is effective for application Serial Nos. 10/540 617, 10/501 303, 10/546 345 and 10/522 648. As such, it is respectfully submitted that the rejections based on these applications have been overcome.

The presently claimed invention is directed to a contamination-preventing agent used to prevent contamination of a contacting portion with a vapor web and a drying part of a paper machine and is continuously supplied and applied to a paper web before entering the drying part wherein the improvement comprises the contamination-preventing agent is obtained by emulsifying a mineral oil, vegetable oil or animal oil using a surface-active agent. As discussed in the present specification, the present invention solves problems occurring in the prior art due to foreign matters adhering to the surface of a cylindrical dryer. That is, the lowering of the heat conductivity on the cylindrical dryer surface, the peeling-off of the paper surface occurring easily, the re-transfer of foreign matter particles grown on the dryer, the burning adhesion of paper on a cylindrical dryer surface and paper breaking, undulation, fuzz or the like caused on the surface of a paper, transfer blocking of ink to a paper surface and an increase in periodic cleanings for a cylindrical dryer surface. The present invention overcomes these problems by applying a contamination-preventing agent continuously to a paper web before it enters in the drying part. It is respectfully submitted that the presently claimed invention is not disclosed by the prior art cited by the Examiner.

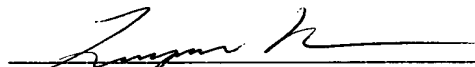
The Kuroda reference discloses a contamination adhesion prevention agent for preventing the adhesion of paper dust and/or pitch in a paper making drying process. This contamination adhesion prevention agent comprises a silicone oil emulsion containing silicone oil in an amount of from 30-65% and having a viscosity of less than 1,000 cst and a silicone oil emulsion containing from 20-40% of a silicone oil having a viscosity of at least 100,000 cst mixed with from 0.01-5% of a fluorine-based surfactant.

The presently claimed invention clearly is distinguishable over Kuroda in that the silicone oil emulsion required there is not contained in the claimed agent and there

is no suggestion in this reference regarding emulsifying a mineral oil, vegetable oil or animal oil using a surface-active agent. A silicone oil is a synthetic oil and, therefore, clearly is not covered by the present claims. Additionally, since a cationic monomer, anionic monomer and nonionic monomer are required in Claims 12, 17, 20 and 25-28, it is clear that these monomers are not fluorine-series monomers. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that the presently claimed invention clearly is patentably distinguishable over the prior art cited by the Examiner.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider the present application and to pass it to issue.

Respectfully submitted,


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